

To: The European Commission

From: Digital Humanism Initiative and
The European Digital Humanism Initiative

Vienna, June 4, 2026

Re: EC letter on Petition No 0710/2025

We would like to sincerely thank the Commission for its detailed and encouraging response to Petition No. 0710/2025 concerning the Digital Services Act (DSA), the Digital Markets Act (DMA), and the AI Act.

We greatly appreciate the Commission's clear reaffirmation that these legislative frameworks are essential instruments for protecting democratic values, safeguarding fundamental rights, promoting fair competition, and ensuring that technological innovation remains human-centric. We particularly welcome the Commission's strong defense of freedom of expression being well protected within the framework of the DSA, its commitment to robust enforcement of the DMA and DSA, and its continued dedication to the implementation of the AI Act.

We also appreciate the recognition of the constructive role that civil society organisations can play in supporting the effective implementation and enforcement of European digital regulation. The invitation to continue contributing expertise, research, and public engagement is both encouraging and important and our organizations stand ready to respond to the challenge

At the same time, we would like to express a concern regarding the recent proposals to simplify and streamline certain aspects of the AI Act as part of the broader "Omnibus" simplification agenda. We fully understand the importance of reducing unnecessary administrative burdens, increasing legal clarity, and supporting European innovation and competitiveness. Indeed, effective regulation must remain workable, proportionate, and practically implementable.

However, simplification should not come at the expense of the core principles that make the European approach to AI globally significant and trustworthy. The strength of the AI Act lies precisely in its principled and risk-based architecture: its commitment to fundamental rights, transparency, accountability, human oversight, democratic legitimacy, and proportional safeguards. These principles are not secondary administrative layers; they constitute the normative foundation of trustworthy AI governance in Europe.

We therefore encourage the Commission, the Council, and the European Parliament to ensure that any simplification measures preserve the integrity of this principles-based approach. In particular, care should be taken that delays, exemptions, or procedural streamlining do not inadvertently weaken protections in high-risk contexts, reduce accountability obligations, or create uncertainty regarding the long-term direction of European digital policy. Recent discussions surrounding postponements of obligations for certain high-risk AI systems and reductions in compliance requirements have understandably raised concerns among parts of civil society and academia about the risk of gradual regulatory dilution. Rather than diluting or postponing the implementation of needed digital regulation in the name of simplification, continuous vigilance is required to ensure that regulation keeps up with the accelerating pace of technological development.

Coupled with regulation is always the issue of its enforcement. There are already concerns expressed by several civil society organizations that there is a risk of “massive under-enforcement” of EU digital regulation as Big Tech pretend to comply with the provisions of such regulation forcing the EC to respond in a timely fashion with, understandably, limited resources. Instead of further elaboration, we subscribe to the EP resolution of last month which urges the EC to ensure “ effective, timely and consistent enforcement” of EU digital regulations.

Europe has established itself as a global leader in providing comprehensive digital regulation precisely because it has sought to combine innovation with democratic responsibility. Maintaining that balance will remain essential not only for protecting citizens, but also for building long-term public trust in AI technologies and creating sustainable conditions for innovation itself. Regulating for innovation has proven to be an effective approach for the automobile, pharmaceutical and other industries.

We continue to support the European Union’s efforts to advance a human-centric digital transformation grounded in democratic values, human rights, the rule of law, and international cooperation. We look forward to continuing constructive engagement with European institutions and contributing, wherever useful, to the ongoing implementation and evolution of the EU’s digital regulatory framework.

Yours faithfully,

For the Digital Humanism Initiative

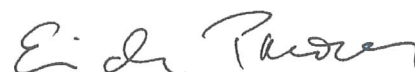
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